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NAPM LLC ANNOUNCES REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FROM VENDORS ON UPCOMING REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR LNP DATABASE PLATFORMS AND SERVICES

WC Docket No. 09--109 WC Docket No. 07-149 CC Docket No. 95-116

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (WCB) of the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) announces the North American Portability Management LLC's (NAPM LLC) development of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for local number portability (LNP) database platforms and services. The Commission encourages full competition in the RFP process and issues this Public Notice to ensure that interested parties are aware of the upcoming process.

The NAPM LLC provides oversight and management of the Local Number Portability Administrator (LNPA) at the direction of the Commission. On August 27, 2010, it filed a letter with the Commission to update the Commission regarding development of the NAPM LLC's RFP for LNP database platforms and services. Specifically, the NAPM LLC states that it plans to release a RFP to provide the specifications and terms for the development of a next-generation Number Portability Administration Center/Service Management System (NPAC/SMS) in the fourth quarter of 2011, with vendor selection, contract execution, platform testing, and system deployment to be completed prior to system launch in June 2015. The NPAC/SMS consists of hardware and software platform(s) that hosts a national information database and serves as the central coordination point of LNP activity. Currently, Neustar, Inc. is responsible for maintaining, administering, and operating the NPAC/SMS, under a contract with the NAPM LLC to perform duties as the LNPA. Because number portability promotes competition between telecommunications service providers by allowing customers to respond to price and service changes without changing their telephone numbers, the LNPA is important in ensuring equal and efficient access to the NPAC/SMS for all carriers.

In preparation for the RFP, the NAPM LLC states that it will issue a Request for Information (RFI) in the fourth quarter of 2010 to begin pre-qualifying potential vendors.

The NAPM LLC also submitted with its letter a news release (attached), which provides additional details pertaining to the RFI as well as contact information. A copy of the NAPM LLC letter is also attached.

The Commission will issue a Public Notice when the RFP is released to the public.

For further information, contact Marilyn Jones, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-2357, or Sanford Williams, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-1508, TTY (202) 418-0484.